NATURAL NEWS

The Field Museum
Exploring
The Earth And Its
People

WEEKLY STAFF NEWSLETTER
May 2, 1997

Congratulations!

PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT WINS TWO MUSE AWARDS

Members of the Public Relations Department and RPM Advertising are pleased to announce that Sacred Art of Haitian Vodou, a thirty-second public service announcement (PSA) which promoted the Museum's exhibit on local television, was named a First Place Winner in the 8th Annual Muse Award Competition, sponsored by the AAM Media & Technology Committee. Heaven on Earth, another Field Museum entry, was named Third Place Winner in the PSA category.

The Competition provides peer recognition for outstanding museums productions, an opportunity to gain national recognition for the best of the year's film and videos and to nurture a growing awareness that media and technology are important interpretive tools. The Muse Awards Competition took place on April 28, 1997, at the American Association of Museums' Convention in Atlanta, Georgia. Seventy museums across the United States and Canada submitted entries to the Muse Competition.

See next week's issue for more award news!

WILD IN CHICAGO: Debriefing

On Friday, May 2 from 3:00 to 3:30 p.m. in the Education Conference Room

There will be a meeting to discuss the "Wild in Chicago '97" festival. All are welcome, especially those who participated in this event and have strong feelings on what was successful and what might be improved. Some written surveys have been returned, but a brief discussion may help to focus on problems and improve next year's event.

John Wagner

WELCOME! Staff Members who started in April

Christina Hill	Anthropology	Intern	641
Ruth Hill	Housekeeping	Housekeeper	371
Jodi Irwin	Botany	MS-Science III	724
Susan Lerner	Exhibits	Exhibit Preparator I	329
Tamatha Norment	Anthropology	Intern	641

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR PROMOTION!

Jean Fraleigh	President's Office	Assistant to President	846
Adam Kashuba	Envir.Consv.Pgm.	Adm./Finance Assistant	717

GOODBYE and GOOD LUCK... Staff Members who left in April

Deborah Brown	Security Services	Security Supervisor
Pamela Buczkowske	Security Services	Security Officer III
Douglas Dewitt	Exhibits	Exhibit Designer II
Tariq Farooqui	Academic Affairs	Intern
James Foerster	Anthropology	Secretary II
Tammy Fout	Tours	Secretary II
Patrick Hanrahan	Museum Store	Museum Store Oper. Manager
Deborah Hartmann	Zoology	MS-Science II
Scott Mattera	FP&O Audio Visual	Assistant Audio Technician
Robert Stack	Museum Store	Sales Clerk I
Caroline Wiecking	Exhibits	Assistant Developer

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DAY CARE FINDINGS: HONEY TREE IS OUR CHOICE

WE WILL TRY TO NEGOTIATE!

Back in October 1996, we started a Day Care Task Force to explore day care options. We looked at the possibility of on-site day care and reached a decision that it is not financially feasible at this time. We then decided to look outside the museum for possible off-site facilities. On April 4, 1997, five staff members from the task force went over to Honey Tree on State Street (located only 4-5 blocks away from the museum) to look at the facility. The visit was able to give us facts, which are listed below, on Honey Tree and what they have to offer.

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FACTS ON HONEY TREE

HONEY TREE/State Street--in the Dearborn Park neighborhood in downtown Chicago . . . a preschool designed especially for your child
PRESCHOOL Programs
2 - 6 years
TWIG Infant Programs
6 weeks - 24 months

GEARED TO EXCELLENCE
- NAEYC accreditation (in process)
- core curriculums based on Erickson, Hymes, Piaget and Montessori
- professional, experienced staff
- a curriculum enrichment program
- maximum hours 7am to 6:30pm, weekdays
- field trips for fun and learning
- indoor and outdoor play
- DCFS licensed
- all staff CPR licensed

HONEY TREE Early Learning Centers:
1325 South State, Chicago 60605
(312)913-9060

201 North Wells, Chicago 60606
(312)553-9100
(312)553-1709 FAX

CONVENIENT LOCATION
- On State Street at 13th, just south of Roosevelt Road in Dearborn Park II
- Ready access by stroller, car or public transportation
- Drop-off and parking available

FUN LEARNING ENVIRONMENT
- Keyed to helping children be school-ready
- Curriculum Enrichment Coordinator
- A program designed to develop social and motor skills
- Field trips to city's cultural wonders
- Computer, dance and languages
- Parental involvement encouraged
- Great indoor and outdoor play for regular exercise
- Full time Food Handler on staff

FUN TIME TOGETHER
- Your calls and visits are welcomed
- Drop by for lunch or "hug break"

HONEY TREE PROGRAMS

- Full day PRESCHOOL
- Part Time
- BACK-UP and DROP OFF Care
- 2-HR. PLAY 'n LEARN
- AFTERSCHOOL
- SUMMERCAMP
- TWIG Infant Program

Rates vary by Program

EXPERIENCED STAFF

- Executive Director has more than 15 years of professional experience, operating early learning centers since 1981 (Background in Early Childhood and Business Administration)
- Teachers have degrees or Early Childhood Certificates (with 4500 hours of classroom experience)
- A curriculum enrichment coordinator

SAFE AND SECURE

- DCFS licensed
- Video cameras located throughout facility
- Continuous computer printout for identification of all people who enter facility
- City-approved fire protection and prevention system

FINDINGS FROM STAFF WHO WENT TO VISIT

- Security: you must be buzzed in for the protection of the children and staff, but will soon have key card availability for the parent's entry to their facility.
- This day care has a monitoring camera in every room for safety purposes, which the receptionist in the front of the day care oversees.
- Each room has a schedule posted outside each door which tells what the child's daily activities will be.
- This facility has four fire exits in case of an emergency.
- Honey Tree has a nurse that comes in one day a month to oversee diapering procedures, and immunizations are also given if needed.
- This day care gives computer classes and French classes.
- The only forms of discipline that are given are timeouts away from the rest of the children.
- This facility has three heating systems to keep the day care at a comfortable temperature.

WHAT DOES THE DAY CARE TASK FORCE NEED FROM YOU?

We cannot continue to survive unless you as an individual get involved. Therefore, we need to know who is interested and what kind of role you would like to play. There are three things we need from you:

1. To answer a survey which will give us numbers on how many people are interested in the Museum pursuing a discussion with Honey Tree about providing day care services to our staff and volunteers. During our discussions, it would be helpful to know how many people might be interested.

Soon the task force will be sending out the survey, so be on the lookout. These surveys will be due on May 9th. Turn them in at the HR office. This data is extremely important to us.

2. Representatives from the task force will be talking with Honey Tree to see if we can reach an agreement on providing day care to our children. Let us know what you think. Our next meeting will be held on May 15, 1997, in Classroom 1 located on the ground floor.

3. Are you interested in Honey Tree possibly coming over to the Museum to discuss questions that we might have?

For your comments and suggestions, please feel free to contact Maria in Human Resources at Ext. 356 or Jennifer Crodian in Botany at Ext. 592.

Again we appreciate the time you have taken to read this newsletter and would like to know your comments and suggestions.

STAFF PARKING

- The north lot will be gone June 2, 1997.
- Beginning June 2, 1997, all staff will pay to park in the Chicago Park District lot and the Museum west lot. We will be required to park in a specific location in the Park District lot.
- The Museum maintains the use of the west lot. There is a specific plan of use for the west lot.
- After construction, the metered parking on McFetridge will be reduced to approximately 80 spaces. Due to construction on McFetridge, there will be no available parking on McFetridge Drive from June 1 - August 1, 1997.
- All of the parking space surrounding the Museum is owned by the Chicago Park District (CPD). Negotiations have been with and are dependent on the CPD, and their lot lessee, the Standard Parking Corporation.
- A plan has been developed to address parking for: staff, volunteers, research associates, students, unpaid interns, business visitor parking, and Museum event parking.

MUSEUM-WIDE MEETINGS

Over the past several months, a parking committee has been meeting to develop a plan to address our parking concerns. This plan will be shared with you at the following times:

WHEN: Tuesday, May 6, 1997 at 9:30 a.m.
OR
Thursday, May 8, 1997 at 2:30 p.m.

WHERE: Montgomery Ward Lecture Hall (Lecture Hall 1)
Located on the ground floor near the west door

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

RESETAR GUEST SPEAKER AT GIBSON WOODS

Collection Manager **Alan Resetar** (Zoology, Amphibians and Reptiles), was a Guest Speaker at the Gibson Woods Nature Center in Hammond, Indiana on March 11. Gibson Woods is part of the Lake County Parks System which displayed at "It's Wild in Chicago," and is in the process of becoming a Chicago Wilderness participant. Alan gave a slide/lecture program on the amphibians and reptiles of northwest Indiana. Audience members stayed awake thanks to a nature center staff member who commandeered a WWI cannon from a nearby city park and fired loud volleys every ten minutes.

THE BIODIVERSITY PROJECT

On April 16 Environmental Educator in Residence, **Carol Fialkowski** (Environmental and Conservation Programs, ECP) was invited to participate in a small-group working session of the Biodiversity Project in Washington, D.C. The goal was to develop effective messages to promote biodiversity to sympathetic audiences. The Biodiversity Project is a public education initiative of the Consultative Group on Biological Diversity, an association of more than forty grantmakers dedicate to focusing attention on the conservation of biological resources. The project is designed to provide a framework for funders and non-governmental organizations to work together in helping reconnect American and Canadian citizens to the role that biological resources play in supporting their well-being. The messages resulting from the April 16 session and those developed around themes of endangered species, land use issues and wetlands will be made available for public use shortly.

Some conclusions the Project has come to are: I) the term biological diversity is practically invisible - only two in ten Americans recognize it; ii) the strongest argument for protecting diversity could come under the heading "what's in it for me?"; iii) public focus groups understood that natural systems, labeled "ecosystem services," provide us with clean air and water, food sources and other necessities; iv) another strong argument for protecting biodiversity comes from stewardship, a sense of responsibility to one's family and future. For a copy of the Project's cluster analysis findings from a national survey of "Public Attitudes on Biological Diversity," call Carol (x629).

AMERICAN MUSEUM SYMPOSIUM

On April 17 and 18, The American Museum of Natural History held its spring symposium which focused on the theme of extinctions. Environmental Educator in Residence, Carol Fialkowski (Environmental and Conservation Programs, ECP), was an invited presenter for the Friday proceedings "Preventing Extinction: Advances in Biodiversity Conservation." Carol presented a joint session with the Director of Education from the World Wildlife Fund entitled "The Contributions of Environmental Education." The presentation focused on the first urban collaboration, Chicago Wilderness, and the role research plays in developing the project's educational direction. For those wanting to learn more about the content of the symposium, a white paper should be available by fall.

NOON BALLOON

The Noon Balloon presentation for Tuesday April 29, 1997 was delivered by **John Kethley,** Curator, Division of Insects, Department of Zoology, Field Museum. He discussed host-parasite relations where one often finds congruent patterns of host and parasite phylogenies. He focused on cheyletoid mites, a monophyletic group comprising nearly 1,200 species of obligate vertebrate parasites. Cheyletoid interfamilial relationships suggest discordant host-parasite patterns.

A **VISITOR** is the most important person in our organization.
A **VISITOR** is not dependant on us, but we on him/her.
A **VISITOR** is not an interruption of our work, he/she is the purpose of it.
A **VISITOR** brings us his/her wants, and it is our job to fill those wants.
A **VISITOR** is the one who makes it possible to pay our salaries, whether we are in a service, scientific or administrative area.
A **VISITOR** is the lifeblood of The Field Museum.

THE PUBLIC SERVICE DEPARTMENT
WISHES TO CONGRATULATE THE MARCH EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH:

ROBERT HARRIS, HOUSEKEEPING

and

MARCH NOMINEES:

JAMES THOMPSON, HOUSEKEEPING
WENDELL DAVIS, SECURITY
LIONEL DUNN, SECURITY
DENISE HATTER-EASLEY, VISITOR SERVICE.

Their exceptional teamwork and outstanding customer service is greatly appreciated.

Diane White, Public Services

FIELD MUSEUM FAN MAIL

I just finished watching the movie about the lions. Like many people -- I am sure -- I was fascinated with the story. After accessing your web page I was very glad for the Internet and what it can provided. All this sad talk about dirty photos, etc is balanced with information people like me can access. I spent 3 years in Chicago 20 years ago during my high school years and lived in Downers Grove. In my next visit I hope to visit your museum. Thank you for a well done site

Michael - From California

(Forwarded to the *Natural News* by **Nina Cummings,** Photography, who retrieved in from the Internet.)

A FEW GOOD REASONS FOR MULTI CULTURAL SENSITIVITY

The name Coca-Cola in China was first rendered as Ke-kou-ke-la. Unfortunately, the Coke company did not discover until after thousands of signs had been printed that the phrase means "bite the wax tadpole" or "female horse stuffed with wax" depending on the dialect. Coke then researched 40,000 Chinese characters and found a close phonetic equivalent, "ko-kou-ko-le," which can be loosely translated as "happiness in the mouth."

In Taiwan, the translation of the Pepsi slogan "Come alive with the Pepsi Generation" came out as "Pepsi will bring your ancestors back from the dead."

-- Culled from the Internet

The *Natural News* is edited by **Carolyn Klyce** in the President's Office. The deadline for all submissions -- in WordPerfect on floppy disk or via E-mail to klyce@fmppr.fmnh.org -- is Tuesday at noon.